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CLASSIFICATION [REDACTED]

COUNTRY Soviet Zone of Germany 25X1 REPORT NO. [REDACTED]

25X1

TOPIC Soviet Troops in the WITTENBERG Area

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED [REDACTED] 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT November and December 1949

DATE OBTAINED [REDACTED] DATE PREPARED 9 February 1950

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 4 ENCLOSURES (NO. &amp; TYPE)

REMARKS

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[REDACTED] 1. The following observations were made in WITTENBERG (N 52/E 37) in late November 1949:

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a. Beseler Kaserne:

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25X1 Heavily occupied by tank and SP artillery units. Fifteen T34 tanks and several SP guns were observed.

b. Kaserne (Flak Kaserne) in the Lerchenberg Settlement:

Heavily occupied by tank, rocket launcher and armored infantry units.

(1) T34 and JS tanks, two-axle armored personnel carriers and rocket launchers were seen in the kaserne area.

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c. Former balloon depot west of the Flak Kaserne:

25X1 Heavy motor vehicle traffic was observed there. The doors of the garages were being enlarged.

[Redacted]

2. The following observations were made at the WITTENBERG military post between 15 and 29 December 1949:

a. Tauentzien Kaserne:

Occupied to capacity by:

(1) Division headquarters with a personnel of about 300, quartered in the western kaserne section.

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[Redacted]

(b) Telephone lines leading from this kaserne section to private billets of field officers in the houses No 3 to 10 on Berlinerstrasse were constructed in early December 1949.

(2) Division signal unit of about 200 men.

(3) Guards rifle unit of about 300 troops (including recruits, quartered in the northern and eastern kaserne section.

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[Redacted]

(4) The headquarters of an artillery regiment was allegedly also stationed in the kaserne. Artillery officers were repeatedly observed.

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[Redacted]

b. Flak Kaserne:

Occupied by:

(1) Component units of a tank regiment numbering about 250 troops.

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(b) Six to seven hundred troops and 70 to 80 tanks had been observed with this tank regiment in early December 1949. Some personnel was allegedly transferred to an unidentified location during the first half of December 1949.

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These motor vehicles allegedly belonged to a recent supply shipment and received other numbers upon distribution to the unit.

(2) Guards rifle units of about 350 troops, allegedly one battalion.

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(3) Artillery units of about 500 troops, allegedly two battalions. About 20 76.2-mm guns and ten 122-mm howitzers belonged to the units.

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(4) Mortar unit of about 100 men, allegedly one battalion, equipped with 20 122-mm mortars and trucks

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(5) Engineer unit of about 200 troops wearing a silver anchor on black epaulets. Trucks [redacted] were observed with the unit.

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(6) Technical unit of about 100 men wearing black epaulets, allegedly a headquarters. Passenger cars [redacted] were identified with the unit.

c. Beseler Kaserne:

Still occupied by:

(1) Guard tank regiment of about 500 troops, equipped with 40 T34 tanks and 20 Shchuka tanks.

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(2) Guards SP artillery unit of about 200 troops, equipped with about 20 SU-100 and SU-249 SP guns.

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(3) Artillery unit of about 300 men, equipped with about 15 76.2-mm guns.

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d. Cantonment (20 to 25 wooden and brick buildings, 26 x 65 feet)  
on Nordendstrasse and Rungestrasse:

Occupied by tank and artillery units of 600 to 700 troops since early November 1949.

(1) Local residents said that rocket launchers mounted on trucks and tank chassis were stationed in the cantonment.

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e. Soviet billets (two four-story buildings with about 100 apartments)  
on Berlinerstrasse:

Occupied by officers and older, married NCO's of Soviet Army units, quartered in the Tauentzien Kaserne, Flak Kaserne and Beseler Kaserne.

f. County kommandatura in the Stadthaus on Mauerstrasse, corner of Juristenstrasse :

Sixty to eighty soldiers wearing black-bordered red epaulets.

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Comment:

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a. The report on the occupation of the WITTENBERG military post does not indicate any changes compared with information of late October and early November 1949. The reported kaserne are generally occupied by component units of the 6th Gds Tank Div (Cadre) [redacted]

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[redacted] The engineer unit in the Flak Kaserne may be a headquarters unit of the Third Gds Mecz Army (Cadre). [redacted]

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b. The information on a division headquarters in the Tauentzien Kaserne, WITTENBERG, confirms the Hq 6th Gds Tank Div (Cadre) up to 29 December 1949.

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